

January 4, 2007 Belmont Cultural Council Meeting Minutes

Members attending: Viva Fisher, Rebecca Richards, Juliet Jenkins, Sarah Freiberg-Ellison, Patty Mihelich, Susan Smart

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 pm.. The minutes from 11/28/06 were discussed. Patty and Susan suggested a few revisions, which were noted by Juliet. Viva moved to approve the minutes of November 28, 2006, with the noted revisions. Sarah seconded and all approved. Juliet will post them on the town website.

There was discussion of FY 2006 grants, which were not yet appropriated. Jane Sherwin's request for reimbursement was discussed. Due to missing material and a missing public presentation component, a motion was made to extend Ms. Sherwin's deadline to June 15, 2007. Sarah made the motion and Rebecca seconded it. Several suggestions for a public presentation by Ms. Sherwin were made, including the Belmont Historical Society newsletter, the public high school, and the cable TV Belmont Forum show. Juliet, as the council liaison, will call and follow-up by letter to inform Ms. Sherwin.

No cost extensions were discussed for Belmont World Film Festival's FY 2006 animation workshop for kids. Patty made a motion to extend the deadline to November 2007. Susan seconded it. All approved.

Rebecca and Viva reported that the Gallery could be considered for a Gold Star Application, with a January 16th deadline. The council agreed with the idea. Rebecca and Viva will follow up on this.

The next issue to be discussed concerned the grant application number six, which had been approved for \$700 at the last meeting. #6 was for the Burbank School to have the project, ³Ben Franklin visits Belmont.² Since our meeting, the performer has passed away. The council contact, Susan, had been trying to get in touch with the grant contact to work out an alternative solution. The Burbank PTO did not seem to be aware of the death of the performer. According to Massachusetts Cultural Council rules, we needed to make a determination on the use of the approved funds by January 16th. Susan Smart reported no success in reaching the grant contact. During the meeting, with several cell-phone conversations, a representative of the Burbank School PTO, Donna Ruvolo, was informed of the current situation. The MCC rules stated that we could grant the funds if the school agreed to the spirit of the grant and were willing to secure another artist for a similar program at a similar time. Our financial award would remain the same, \$700. Ms. Ruvolo, as a spokesperson for the Burbank PTO, agreed to the conditions. The Cultural council voted to approve the funds for the Burbank school to be used for a similar program to that described in the grant with a different performer. Sarah made the motion and Patty seconded it. All accepted.

Discussion moved to the reception hosted by the Cultural Council at the Belmont Gallery of Art on March 9, 2007 from 5:30 - 7:30. Special invitations will be made to some past recipients of Council funds to discuss the effect of the grants on their programs. Belmont World Film Festival, Jane Sherwin and Powers Music School will be approached among others. Patty offered to be in charge of the invitations. Photos of any recent grant recipients will be collected to use for the public relations materials leading up to the reception.

The meeting schedule was changed. Originally there was a meeting scheduled for January 16. It will be cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for January 30, 2007.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted by Juliet Jenkins